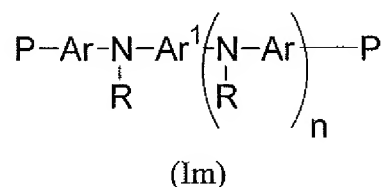
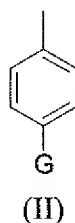


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A monomer of formula (Im):



wherein each Ar is the same or different and independently represents an optionally substituted phenyl or biphenyl; Ar¹ represents an optionally substituted phenyl or biphenyl; each P is the same or different and independently represents a leaving group capable of participating in metal insertion with a nickel or palladium complex catalyst; n is at least 2; and each R is a group of formula (II):

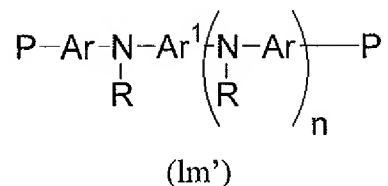


wherein G is hydrogen or a substituent selected from C₁₋₂₀ alkyl; C₁₋₂₀ alkoxy; C₁₋₂₀ fluoroalkyl; C₁₋₂₀ perfluoroalkyl; and fluorine.

2. (Withdrawn) A monomer according to claim 1 wherein each P is the same or different and is independently selected from halogen; a reactive boronic group selected from a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group; a group of formula -B-Hal₃⁻ M⁺ or DZ-B-Hal₃ wherein each Hal independently represents a halogen, M represents a metal cation and DZ represents diazonium; a group of formula wherein each Hal independently represents a halogen and M represents a metal cation a group of formula O-SiR⁷₃ wherein each R⁷ independently represents an optionally substituted alkyl or aryl; or a moiety of formula -O-SO₂-Z wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl and aryl.

3. (Withdrawn) A monomer according to claim 1 wherein n is 2 or 3.

4. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing a polymer comprising the step of polymerizing the monomer of formula (Im')



wherein each Ar is the same or different and independently represents an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl; Ar¹ represents an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl; each R is the same or different and independently represents a substituent; each P is the same or different and independently represents a leaving group capable of participating in metal insertion with a nickel or palladium complex catalyst; and n is at least 2.

5. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 4 wherein each P is independently a halogen or a moiety of formula -O-SO₂-Z and the monomer of formula (Im) is polymerized in the presence of a nickel complex catalyst.

6. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 4 wherein each P is independently a halogen or a moiety of formula -O-SO₂-Z, the monomer of formula (Im) is polymerized with a second monomer having at least two reactive boron functional groups independently selected from a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group, and the polymerization is performed in the presence of a palladium complex catalyst and a base.

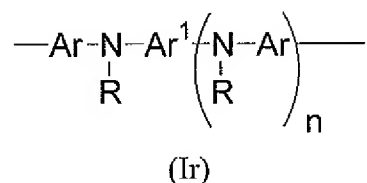
7. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 4 wherein each P is independently a reactive boron functional group selected from a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group; the monomer of formula (Im) is polymerized with a second monomer having at least two substituents independently selected from halogen or a moiety of formula -O-SO₂-Z; and the polymerization is performed in the presence of a palladium complex catalyst and a base.

8. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 4 wherein one P is a halogen or a moiety of formula -O-SO₂-Z and the other P is a reactive boron functional group selected from a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group, and the polymerization is performed in the presence of a palladium complex catalyst and a base.

9. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 4 wherein the monomer of formula (Im) is polymerized with a second monomer selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted aryl and heteroaryl groups.

10. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 9 wherein the second monomer is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted phenyl, fluorene, spirobifluorene, indenofluorene and heteroaryl.

11. (Original) A co-polymer comprising a first repeat unit of formula (Ir) and a second repeat unit Ar²:



wherein each Ar is the same or different and independently represents an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl; Ar¹ represents an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl; each R is the same or different and independently represents a substituent; n is at least 2; and Ar² represents an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl that has a backbone consisting of aryl or heteroaryl groups and that is directly linked and conjugated to Ar of the first repeat unit of formula (Ir).

12. (Original) A co-polymer according to claim 11 wherein Ar² is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted phenyl, fluorene, spirobifluorene, indenofluorene and heteroaryl.

13. (Withdrawn) An optical device comprising a first electrode for injection of charge carriers of a first type, a second electrode for injection of charge carriers of a second type and a polymer according to claim 11 located between the first and second electrodes.

14. (Withdrawn) A method of forming an optical device comprising

- depositing from solution a polymer according to claim 11 onto a substrate carrying a first electrode for injection of charge carriers of a first type, and
- depositing over the polymer a second electrode for injection of charge carriers of a second type.

15. (Withdrawn) A switching device comprising a polymer according to claim 11.

16. (Withdrawn) A field effect transistor comprising, in sequence, a gate electrode; an insulator; a polymer according to claim 11; and a drain electrode and a source electrode on the polymer.

17. (Withdrawn) An integrated circuit comprising a field effect transistor according to claim 16.

18. (New) The co-polymer according to claim 12, wherein Ar^2 is spirobifluorene.

19. (New) The co-polymer according to claim 12, wherein Ar^2 is indenofluorene.

20. (New) The co-polymer according to claim 12, wherein Ar^2 is phenyl or heteroraryl.